

Sinclair Broadcasting uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Sinclair's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry smear documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. I

It's one thing to have broadcast companies such as Fox which present real news with a slant towards their corporate point of view. It is clearly a much more serious issue to have companies like Sinclair forcing local stations to air a smear campaign against a candidate for public office and call it news.

If Sinclair thinks people should be able to see this, they should release it for theatrical distribution, as was done with "Fahrenheit 9/11" and "Bush's Brain".

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them.
Thank you.